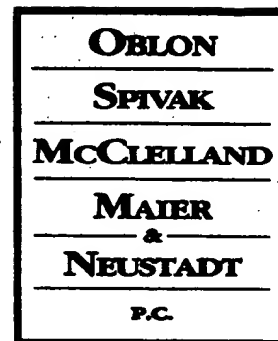


DOCKET NO: 212052US2



ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231



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Re: U.S. Application
Serial No: 09/912,632
Filed: July 26, 2001
Examiner: PATEL, M.
Group: 3737
Date Allowed: December 30, 2002
Inventor: Tetsuya KAWAGISHI, et al.
For: ULTRASONIC DIAGNOSIS
APPARATUS AND
ULTRASOUND IMAGING
METHOD

SIR:

Attached hereto for filing are the following papers:

**PETITION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.181
RESPONSE**

Our check in the amount of \$0.00 is attached covering any required fees. In the event that any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit our Deposit Account No. 15-0030. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for the necessary extension of time. A duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

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212052US-2



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

:

Tetsuya KAWAGISHI ET AL.

: EXAMINER: PATEL, M.

SERIAL NO: 09/912,632

: DATE ALLOWED: DECEMBER 30, 2002

FILED: JULY 26, 2001

: GROUP ART UNIT: 3737

FOR: ULTRASONIC DIAGNOSIS
APPARATUS AND ULTRASOUND
IMAGING METHOD

PETITION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.181

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Applicants respectfully petition in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.181(a)(3) to request consideration by the Examiner to acknowledge that the publications cited in the PTO-1449 form filed with the Information Disclosure Statement on July 26, 2001 be considered.

37 C.F.R. §1.181(a)(3) allows petitioning the authority of the Commissioner in appropriate circumstances.

Consequently, this is an appropriate circumstance in which to invoke the supervisory authority of the Commissioner to request the Examiner to acknowledge the PTO-1449 form noted above.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that this Petition under 37 C.F.R. §1.181 be granted and that the Examiner consider the enclosed response.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



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